



Atty. Dkt. No 065691-0270

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Gilles PITIOT et al.

Title: Odorant-Binding Human Proteins Fixing Hydrophobic Ligands:
Polypeptides and Polynucleotides Coding for said polypeptides
and Uses Thereof

Appl. No.: 10/049,372

Filing Date: 08/15/2002

Examiner: John D. Ulm

Art Unit: 1646

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement dated November 24, 2004, applicants elect with traverse Group II, which corresponds to SEQ ID NO: 4. Claims 1-22, 24-45 and 47-51 read on Group II SEQ ID NO: 4.

Applicants urge that among the six sequences SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4, 6, 8, 12 and 14, no more than two groups should be formed: the first group of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4, 6 and 8, (representing different splicing isoforms of hOPBIIa) and the second group SEQ ID NOS: 12 and 14 (representing different splicing isoforms of hOPBIIb).

The different isoforms of the hOPBIIa protein are very homologous and are in common until at least the eight putative β -sheet, while the different isoforms of hOPBIIb protein are very homologous and are in common until at least the fifth putative β -sheet (see example 5). This suggests a common function of all isoforms from a same hOPBII protein. Moreover, hOPBIIa and hOPBIIb are 89% identical in their amino acid sequence (see page 50, lines 11-12), which suggest close functional capabilities.



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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date May 24, 2005

By

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